

15 percent to 11.3 percent by next year, and would seek to completely eliminate the out-of-pocket housing expenses by 2005. The 2002 Defense Authorization bill would also provide \$17.6 billion for defense healthcare including funding for promised care under TRICARE for Medicare-eligible military retirees.

The bill also includes important environmental cleanup provisions and assistance to foreign nations for humanitarian efforts. The bill would provide \$3 billion for the Energy Department to clean facilities with extensive and severe environmental damage before those facilities close. Funding for the development of new technologies to clean the environment is also included in the bill.

Despite these important provisions, I have grave concerns with certain provisions in the bill that I believe could harm our nation's relations with key allies. This bill includes \$8.2 billion for missile defense, which is 55 percent more than the current funding level. It also includes authorization to construct a test bed for a national missile defense system in Alaska. This test bed could violate the AntiBallistic Missile (ABM) treaty, which has been the cornerstone of international arms control for nearly 30 years. The proposed national missile defense system has only been tested in ways that can be described as artificial, and a majority of those tests have failed. In fact, a panel of Defense Department experts cautioned that Congress's rush to install a national missile defense was a "rush to failure."

Congress's misguided insistence on developing a missile defense shield and its apparent willingness to abrogate the ABM treaty will seriously injure America's relations with its foreign allies. Our European allies—Britain, France and others—have expressed reservations about America's unilateral approach toward national missile defense. Additionally, Congress's insistence on a national missile defense that violates the ABM treaty could incite another arms race. Already, China has warned that it would acquire as many ballistic missiles with as many warheads as possible if the United States unilaterally deploys a missile defense.

While I strongly oppose provisions in the bill that would violate the ABM treaty by pushing forward with the development of a missile shield, I voted for the Defense Authorization bill with the understanding that both Republicans and Democrats will work together to come to an agreement on these contentious provisions. The Senate has already indicated its intention to cut \$1 billion from the funding contained in the bill for missile defense and it intends to consider a separate bill at a later date that will ensure Congress's authority to oversee any missile tests that could violate the ABM treaty.

TRIBUTE TO THE STUDENT BODY AND FACULTY OF CHOTEAU ELEMENTARY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Student Body and Faculty of Choteau Elementary for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived

and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of young people like that of Choteau Elementary signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Student Body and Faculty of Choteau Elementary has contributed and raised more than \$2,300 in a school-wide change drive for the grieving families and rescue workers. The patriotism and persistence of Student Body and Faculty of Choteau Elementary is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

DEPARTURE OF NEA CHAIRMAN WILLIAM J. IVEY

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. William J. Ivey, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, who will be stepping down on September 31, 2001.

Since 1998, when the United States Senate unanimously confirmed Mr. Ivey as NEA Chairman, he has forged effective working relationships with more than 250 members of the U.S. Congress.

Through these relationships, Mr. Ivey helped secure a \$7 million funding increase for the NEA's Challenge America program in Fiscal Year 2002, their first budget increase in a decade. The Challenge America program devel-

oped by Mr. Ivey supports arts education, services for young people, cultural heritage preservation, community partnerships and expanded access to the arts. Without a doubt, this program will contribute to the rich artistic and cultural fabric that has been woven over the course of our nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, as the U.S. Representative for the 3rd Congressional District of New Mexico, I have the privilege of serving several well-known art communities. On behalf of them and all those throughout the United States of America, who like myself, cherish the various arts and their valuable contributions to our society and culture, I would like to thank Mr. Ivey for his work as NEA Chairman.

It was a pleasure to work with him and I am sorry to see him go, but am greatly appreciative of all that he has done and will continue to do on behalf of the arts and I wish him the best of luck with all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN IVEY

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chairman Bill Ivey who will soon be stepping down as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts and returning to Nashville, Tennessee. Although I am saddened by his leaving, I am proud that he will once again be one of my constituents in his new position as the Harvie Branscomb Distinguished University Visiting Scholar at Vanderbilt University.

In his new capacity, he will teach, write and conduct research on cultural policy as well as begin the planning and development of a center that will examine the complex relationship between the arts and public policy. Prior to his most recent position, Bill was one of the most widely respected individuals in both the music community as well as the business community at large. Bill joined the Country Music Foundation in Nashville in 1971. The Foundation is accredited by the American Association of Museums as a nonprofit education and research center. It operates the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, manages historic properties and publishes a well-respected journal.

Under Chairman Ivey's stewardship, the NEA has funded extremely valuable and important educational programs and worthwhile events in my home state of Tennessee and across the country. The NEA provides funding for many programs in Tennessee, including the Nashville Symphony Association, Fisk University, and the Tennessee Arts Commission. I believe it is important to ensure that adequate funding for these programs continues.

Chairman Ivey has restored the image of the NEA and, under his leadership, federal funding has risen steadily. He has successfully brought a diverse array of arts and cultural programs into rural and previously underserved communities across the country. Programs such as ARTSReach: Strengthening Communities Through the Arts have helped build more than 223 partnerships between arts organizations and civic organizations—schools, churches, chambers of commerce and youth groups—in more than 175 communities in 20 under-served states. This highly

successful program has opened the world of the arts to thousands of Americans.

However, the need is so much larger than the funds available. For every worthwhile request that receives funding, many other equally worthwhile proposals are rejected simply for a lack of available funds. These programs preserve and provide access to cultural and education resources to our citizens. They provide opportunities for lifelong learning in arts and humanities. And they strengthen teaching and learning in history, literature, language and arts in schools, colleges and their surrounding communities.

Just as we need to continue to fund scientific research, we must continue to fund the arts and humanities. A world without the arts and humanities would be devoid of cultural meaning. Research shows that the arts and humanities benefit our nation's young people by improving reading, writing, speaking and listening skills and by helping to develop problem-solving and decision-making abilities essential in today's global marketplace.

The NEA is losing a respected and successful chairman, and although I am sorry to see him step down from the NEA, I am pleased to welcome him home to Nashville and look forward to continue to work with him to advance and promote the arts in Tennessee and across the country. I have every confidence that he will continue to be a strong national advocate for the arts and a leader in his field. Mr. Ivey has done a great job of promoting arts and humanities across this country and I appreciate his efforts.

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTRAL JACKSON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of organizations like the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District has participated in the "Pass the Boot" activities at Arrowhead Stadium raising thousands of dollars to assist in the rescue efforts

including the 9-11 Relief Fund, the Red Cross, and to provide for the grieving families. The patriotism and persistence of the Central Jackson County Fire Protection District is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

HONORING OFFICER BOB HOLDER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and applaud Officer Bob Holder who resides in Trinidad, Colorado. Officer Holder has recently been named the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association's Officer of the Year. I am proud that Colorado has been so solidly represented by an individual committed both to his work and the community where he has established his life and career.

Bob Holder has spent over twenty-six years with the Division of Wildlife and Management in Trinidad, Colorado. During this time, Bob has gone above and beyond his call of duty working not only as a wildlife officer, but also as an educator and mentor to the local community. Additionally, Officer Holder's communication skills and commitment to the people of Colorado helped to maintain a working relationship between landowners, land users and the Division of Wildlife and Management. These accomplishments, along with a distinguished resume of service to the State of Colorado, made Officer Holder's name stand out when being considered for recognition by the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association. This association designated Bob out of nearly 8,000 wildlife officers from across both the United States and Canada.

Mr. Speaker, Officer Holder has been a dedicated public servant to the State of Colorado. It is with great pleasure that I publicly recognize his achievements and offer my congratulations and warmest regards to Officer Bob Holder.

A TRIBUTE TO BILL IVEY

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Bill Ivey upon the occasion of his departure from the National Endowment for the Arts. Chairman Ivey is an extraordinary leader, who transformed an agency battling for its very survival to one which has received increases in funding and ever-growing respect and acceptance. As a recent member of the National Council on the Arts, I had the distinct honor of working alongside Chairman Ivey, and I have seen first-hand the vision, dedication, and warm personal touch he has contributed to the arts community for more than thirty years.

The NEA is not the first institution to have benefitted from Chairman Ivey's talents. Mr. Ivey was the first Endowment chairman to have developed and run a nonprofit cultural organization, serving as Director of the Country Music Foundation in Nashville, Tennessee for seventeen years. There, he forged valuable public-private partnerships, and created numerous outstanding programs. Chairman Ivey has chaired or served on fifteen different Endowment grant panels, and he served as an appointee to the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

The NEA will sorely miss Bill Ivey. Yet the under-served communities touched by his Challenge America Program, the thousands of artists, students, and teachers who will benefit from increased NEA funding, and those of us in Congress who have had the pleasure of working and fighting by his side will remain grateful for the service that Chairman Ivey has performed.

TRIBUTE TO BILL IVEY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Bill Ivey for his service as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Under his leadership, this important agency has thrived despite stagnant budgets and political roadblocks. In fact, his greatest achievement may be the period of relative calm in which the NEA now finds itself.

When Chairman Ivey took over this embattled agency, he faced a Congressional majority that was not only unsupportive of the NEA, but downright hostile to the entire notion of federal funding for the arts. He inherited an agency marked for elimination since 1995, over which legendary battles had been waged. Chairman Ivey disarmed many of his enemies, however, with his thoughtful approach and personal charm.

An important legacy of Chairman Ivey's tenure is the Challenge America Initiative, which specifically expands the reach of the NEA into under-served communities. By clearly demonstrating the NEA's historic commitment to ensuring the broad distribution of the arts throughout the nation, Chairman Ivey greatly enhanced the impact of the NEA.